

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 14-39, 41-43, 45, 49-55, 68-70, 72-74, 76, 80-84, 96-99, 101-103, 105, 109-115, 128-142 and 189 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 9, 14, 29, 30, 33, 36, 37, 55, 68, 76, 84, 97 and 115 are amended, and claim 13 is cancelled.

I. Description of Claim Amendments

The third clause of claim 9 (beginning "a first measuring system") is amended to add the "wherein" clause thereto. These features were previously recited in claim 13, which has been cancelled. Claim 14 is amended to depend from claim 9. Clause (a) of claim 29 is amended to add the underlined text thereto. Clause (b) of claim 30 is amended to add the underlined text thereto. Clause (b) of claim 33 is amended to add the underlined text thereto. Clause (b) of claim 36 is amended to add "wherein the scanning mechanism includes a mask driving unit for moving the mask and a plate driving unit for moving the plate, and" thereto. The last clause has been added to claim 37. The first clause of previous claim 55 has been removed since the features of that clause have been placed into claim 37. The last clause has been added to claim 68. Claim 76 has been amended to add all of the text after the first occurrence of the word "interferometer". The first clause of previous claim 84 has been removed since the features of that clause have been placed into claim 68. The last clause of claim 97 has been added. The first clause of previous claim 115 has been removed since the features of that clause have been placed into claim 97.

II. Supplemental Reissue Declaration

A Supplemental Reissue Declaration, referring to the amendments made in this Amendment, is being executed by the inventor, and will be filed with the Patent Office in due course.

III. Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner is requested to consider the references submitted in the attached Information Disclosure Statement.

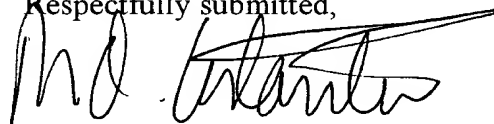
The independent claims have been amended as set forth above in order to more clearly distinguish them from JP-A-4-235558, which is submitted with the attached Information Disclosure Statement. An English-language translation of this Japanese-language reference also is submitted with the attached Information Disclosure Statement.

IV. Conclusion

Further examination and allowance in due course are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Mario A. Costantino
Registration No. 33,565

MAC/ccs

Attachments:

Request for Continued Examination
Information Disclosure Statement

Date: December 10, 2002

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
